

ACTION MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF FLORENCE COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2020, AT 6:00 P.M., IN THE FLORENCE TOWN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, LOCATED AT 775 N. MAIN STREET, FLORENCE, ARIZONA. ZOOM MEETING ONLY.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING PUBLIC MEETINGS

Due to the risks to public health caused by the possible spread of the COVID-19 virus at public gatherings, the Town of Florence has authorized attendance through technological means. In reliance on, and in compliance with, the March 13, 2020 Opinion issued by Attorney General Mark Brnovich, and in conjunction with the Emergency Proclamation signed by Mayor Tara Walter, on March 18, 2020. The Town of Florence provides this special advance notice of the technological means through which public meetings may be accessed. Public wishing to provide comment at the meeting should contact the Town Clerk in by 5:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.

Members of the public may submit written comments relating to this meeting to Town Clerk Lisa Garcia by emailing lisa.garcia@florenceaz.gov at any time until one hour prior to the posted start time for the meeting. Please be sure to include your name and address for the record as well as the meeting date (and Agenda Item Number#, if applicable) in the subject of your email.

If any member of the public has difficulty connecting to the meeting, they are invited to contact the Town of Florence Information Technology Helpdesk at (520) 868-7543.

Notice is hereby given that the public may alternatively attend the public meeting in-person in the Florence Town Council Chambers, located at 775 N. Main Street, Florence, Arizona.

The agenda for this meeting is as follows:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Walter called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Tara Walter, John Anderson, Karen Wall, Kristen Larsen, Michelle Cordes, Judy Hughes

3. MOMENT OF SILENCE

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

5. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Call to the Public for public comment on issues within the jurisdiction of the Town Council. Council rules limit public comment to three minutes. Individual Councilmembers may respond to criticism made by those commenting, may ask staff to review a matter raised or may ask that a matter be put on a future agenda. However, members of the Council shall not discuss or take action on any matter during an open call to the public unless the matters are properly noticed for discussion and legal action.

6. SWEARING IN OF NEW COUNCIL

Honorable Roger A. Valdez, Florence Municipal Judge, swore in Mayor Tara Walter, Councilmember Kristen Larsen, Councilmember Arthur Neal, and Councilmember Johnie Mendoza.

7. ROLL CALL:

Present: Walter, Anderson, Larsen, Cordes, Hughes, Neal, Mendoza

8. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Presentation of Community Appreciation Award to William "Bill" Hawkins for 14 years of service. (Mayor Walter)
- b. Presentation of Community Appreciation Award to Karen Wall for five years of service. (Mayor Walter)
- c. Presentation of League of Cities and Town Service Award in Appreciation to Tara Walter for eight years of service. (Brent Billingsley)
- d. Presentation of a Key to the Town and Proclamation to Tom Smith. (Mayor Walter)

9. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of appointing a member of Council to serve as Vice-Mayor. (Lisa Garcia)

Mayor Walter nominated Councilmember Larsen. Councilmember Larsen accepted the nomination.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Mendoza – Yes

Councilmember Neal – No

Councilmember Hughes – No

Councilmember Cordes - No

Councilmember Larsen – Yes

Vice-Mayor Anderson – No
Mayor Walter – Yes

Nomination fails: Yes: 3; No 4

Councilmember Hughes nominates Councilmember Cordes. Councilmember Cordes accepts the nomination.

Roll Call Vote:

Councilmember Mendoza – No
Councilmember Neal – Yes
Councilmember Hughes – Yes
Councilmember Cordes - Yes
Councilmember Larsen – No
Vice-Mayor Anderson – Yes
Mayor Walter – No

Nomination Passed: Yes: 4; No: 3

b. Mayor's Appointment of Council Liaison Assignments. (Mayor Walter)

Mayor Walter appointed the following Councilmembers to the following:

Local Liaison Appointments:

Board of Appeals: Vice-Mayor Cordes
Community Services Advisory Board: Councilmember Anderson and Larsen
Historic District Advisory Commission: Councilmember Neal
Florence Industrial Development Authority Inc.: Councilmember Hughes
Planning and Zoning Commission: Councilmember Larsen
Strategic Planning Advisory Committee: to be appointed after codification
Public Safety Retirement Boards: Councilmember Mendoza
Budget Committee: Mayor Walter, Councilmember Larsen and Councilmember Mendoza
Florence Unified School District: Councilmember Mendoza
Greater Florence Chamber of Commerce: Councilmember Anderson
Native American Community Tribes: Councilmember Neal
Pinal Water Augmentation Authority: Councilmember Hughes
Pinal Partnership: Vice-Mayor Cordes

Mayor Liaison Duties:

Arizona Legislature
Central Arizona Association of Governments
League of Cities and Towns Budget, Finance, and Economic Development

Committees
Maricopa Association of Governments
Regional Transportation Authority

c. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of appointment of Board and Commissions:

1. Appointment of Cathy Adams to the Board of Appeals with a term to expire December 31, 2024
2. Appointment of Cindy DiNardo, David Lewis, Lawrence Michael Gutierrez, and Cydni Ambrosio to the Community Services Advisory Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2023.
3. Appointment of Debbie Novotny and Janet Deutmeyer to the Historic District Advisory Committee with a term to expire December 31, 2023.
4. Appointment of Ed Curran, Kenneth Wallace and Alfred Celaya to the Industrial Development Authority with terms to expire December 31, 2026.
5. Mayor to appoint an interview panel to interview applicants for the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Items 1 through 4 are postponed until a meeting in January 2021.

On motions of Vice-Mayor Cordes, seconded by Councilmember Larsen and carried to appoint the Mayor, Council Liaison and Staff Liaison as the interview panel for the next two years.

- d. Discussion/Approval/Disapproval of authorizing the Town of Florence to purchase 4,985 Extinguished Credits from Greenstone Water Credits, LLC, A Delaware Limited Liability Company, for Pinal Active Management Area Extinguishment Credits.**

On motion of Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Larsen and carried (7 to 0) to authorize the Town of Florence to purchase 4,985 Extinguished Credits from Greenstone Water Credits, LLC, A Delaware Limited Liability Company, For Pinal Active Management Area Extinguishing Credits.

10. MANAGER'S REPORT

11. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

12. CALL TO THE COUNCIL – CURRENT EVENTS ONLY

13. ADJOURNMENT

Council may go into Executive Session at any time during the meeting for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the Town's Attorney(s) on any of the agenda items pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(3). One or more members of Council may appear for part or all of the meeting including Executive Session telephonically.

On motion of Councilmember Anderson, seconded by Councilmember Hughes and carried (7 to 0) to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Posted this 16th day of December, 2020, on the Town of Florence website at www.florenceaz.gov by Maria Hernandez, Deputy Town Clerk.